

REMARKS

The law firm of Harrington & Smith PC has been requested by the Assignee to assume responsibility for the further prosecution of this patent application. A revocation of power attorney with a change of correspondence address was previously filed. All future communications regarding this patent application should be directed to customer number 29683.

Claims 1, 2, 6-10, 15, 18, 42, 43, 45-49, 54-56, 58-60, 62-64 and 66-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gupta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,532). Claims 4, 12-14, 44, 51-53, 57 and 61 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta et al. in view of Naudus (U.S. Patent No. 6,202,081). Claims 11 and 50 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gupta et al in view of Nikander (U.S. Patent No. 7,155,500). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The arguments made previously are repeated and incorporated by reference herein.

In order to advance this patent application towards issuance the claims have been amended above.

For example, claim 1 now recites a method that comprises:

generating validity information for a packet, wherein the validity information comprises all necessary information required to perform a validity check of the packet, the validity information comprising algorithm information to be used to perform the validity check of the packet and algorithm initialization information, **the validity information further comprising public key information of a sending node comprising one of the public key of the sending node or an identity of an entity from**

which the public key of the sending node can be obtained, where no pre-established security association is needed to verify the packet;
generating a packet header, comprising the validity information; and
sending the packet including the packet header from a first network node to a second network node.

In addition, claims 6-10 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

As will be discussed below, the teachings of Gupta et al. fail to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claim 1 as now further clarified by amendment, and therefore fails to provide the features discussed above. The rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1, as now clarified by amendment, includes further subject matter that is not disclosed or suggested by Gupta et al., i.e., "the validity information further comprising public key information of a sending node comprising one of the public key of the sending node or an identity of an entity from which the public key of the sending node can be obtained". When rejecting claims 6-10 the Examiner refers to various portions of Gupta et al. (e.g., in cols. 6 and 7) for purportedly disclosing the claimed subject matter. However, the cited portions of Gupta et al. do not disclose or suggest that Gupta et al. actually send the public key of a sending node in the packet header, nor do the cited portions disclose or suggest that Gupta et al. send an identity of an entity from which the public key of the sending node can be obtained.

When rejecting claim 8 the Examiner states that "the index is the identity, and the entry in the table is the entity". However, the index is simply, e.g., a value that specifies a

location within some storage such as a table or a database. The index does not *per se* identify any particular storage. Clearly, the claimed recitation of the validity information comprising an "identity of an entity from which the public key of the sending node can be obtained" is not anticipated by the key index 312 of Gupta et al.

In that claim 1 is clearly allowable over Gupta et al., then all claims that depend from claim 1 are also allowable over Gupta et al., whether considered only in view of Gupta et al. or in view of Gupta et al. and Naudus or Nikander.

All of the other independent claims have been amended in a manner similar to the claim 1 so as to include a recitation:

"the validity information further comprising public key information of a sending node comprising one of the public key of the sending node or an identity of an entity from which the public key of the sending node can be obtained".

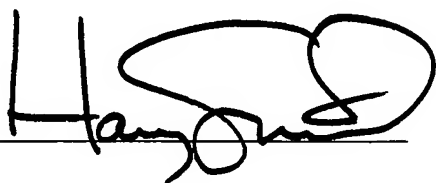
In addition, claims 44, 57 and 61 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, as they contain subject matter that may be duplicative of the subject matter in their respective independent claims. Also, certain other dependent claims 45-49, 58 and 62 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The foregoing amendment should be found to place the claims in condition for allowance, and to further place this patent application in condition to issue as US Letters Patent.

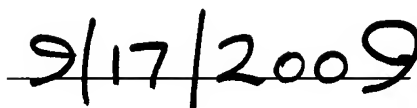
The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103, and to allow all of the pending claims as now

presented for examination. An early notification of the allowability of all of the now pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry F. Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Harry F. Smith

A handwritten date "9/17/2009" in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

9/17/2009

Date

Elaine F. Mian

Name of Person Making Deposit